

**Amendments to the Specification**

1) Please delete the paragraph found at page 1, line 1:

2) Please insert the following title at page 1, line 1:

**Production unit for large quantities of oxygen and/or nitrogen**

3) Please insert the following paragraph beginning at page 1, line 3:

This application claims the benefit of priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a) and (b) 1 to French Application No. 0211232 filed September 11, 2002, the entire contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.

4) Please insert the following subtitle at page 1, below the above-referenced paragraph:

**Background**

5) Please insert the following subtitle and text at page 1, line 34:

**Summary**

The present invention relates to a plant for producing oxygen and/or nitrogen and/or argon by air distillation. The invention applies, for example, to the production of large quantities of high-pressure oxygen, especially for feeding synthetic hydrocarbon production units.

6) Please insert the following subtitle and text at page 3, line 22:

**Brief Description of the Drawings**

For a further understanding of the nature and objects for the present invention, reference should be made to the following detailed description, taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which like elements are given the same or analogous reference numbers and wherein:

- Figure 1 illustrates schematically, one embodiment according to the current invention;
- Figure 2 illustrates schematically, another embodiment according to the current invention; and
- Figure 3 illustrates schematically, a third embodiment according to the current invention.

- 7) Please insert the following subtitle at page \_\_\_\_\_, after the above-inserted paragraphs:

**Description of Preferred Embodiments**

- 8) Please delete the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 20.

- 9) Please insert the following paragraph at page 9, line 25:

It will be understood that many additional changes in the details, materials, steps and arrangement of parts, which have been herein described in order to explain the nature of the invention, may be made by those skilled in the art within the principle and scope of the invention as expressed in the appended claims. Thus, the present invention is not intended to be limited to the specific embodiments in the examples given above.

- 10) Please replace the subtitle at page 10, line 1, with the following text:

**CLAIMS** What is claimed is: